

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

April 8, 1980

AM

10:00

CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings: May 13, 1980
June 10, 1980

B. Approval of March 11, 1980 minutes.

C. Muhlenberg Memorial; Inspection of plaster cast - report.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. D.C. Department of Housing and Economic Development

1. Old Georgetown Act

- a. O.G. 80-52, 3020 K Street, N.W., resubmission of designs for a new mixed use complex.
- b. O.G. 80-53, 3631 Canal Road, N.W. Proposed apartment building as addition to 2 existing 19th century structures.
- c. O.G. 80-31, 2929 M Street, N.W., revised designs and model for proposed new National Savings and Trust Bank.

d. Appendix I

2. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. Appendix II

B. Department of the Army

1. CFA APR/8/80 - 1, Arlington Cemetery, proposed modifications and handicapped facilities at the Amphitheater.

C. Smithsonian Institution

1. CFA APR/8/80 - 6, South Quadrangle development plan.

D. University of the District of Columbia and WMATA

1. CFA APR/8/80 - 5, Proposed bridge connection between buildings, Van Ness and Connecticut Avenue.

E. District of Columbia Department of General Services

1. CFA APR/8/80 - 2, Prevocational/Vocational/Educational facility for the handicapped. 1st Street between H and I Streets, N.W.

F. National Park Service, National Capital Region

1. CFA APR/8/80 - 4, Site plan for temporary sculpture by Lila Katzen, Reservation 378, Federal Reserve Building.
2. CFA APR/8/80 - 9, Temporary sites for the International Sculpture Conference to be held in early Summer.

G. District of Columbia, Department of Transportation

1. CFA APR/8/80 - 3, Modification to approved designs for railing at Chain Bridge.

H. Department of Health and Human Services

1. CFA APR/8/80 - 7, Designs for new seal.

III. LEGISLATION

A. Committee on Environment and Public Works

1. CFA APR/8/80 - 8, Request for comments on S. 2080, "The Public Buildings Act of 1979."

IV. INSPECTION

- A. Site inspection of proposed acquisitions at the Freer Gallery.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

April 8, 1980

NO. ADDRESS AND OWNERPROJECT

* O.G. 80-32

2929 M Street, N.W.
National Savings and Trust Co.

Install a temporary prefabricated bank complete with 3 tellers, 2 officers, toilet for handicapped, automatic teller machine and night depository.

ACTION: Issue permit for temporary structure for banking operations. Structure to be removed following completion of permanent structure.

* O.G. 80-33

2833 M Street, N.W.
HPA. 80-193 Deanwood Development limited
Partnership

New Construction

ACTION: Issue permit. Request construction of brick (Calvert) and mortar sample panel on site for inspection and approval prior to erection of finished Masonry.

* O.G. 80-35

1020 33rd Street, N.W.
HPA. 80-199 Potomac Power and Electric Company

Raze existing substation and accessory building and construction of new substation facility two walls existing structure to be preserved.

ACTION: Issue permit for demolition on site as proposed; note that south and east walls of existing conduit building at corner of 33rd and K Streets, N.W. will be stabilized, retained and restored as a part of the new construction on the site. Submit designs for new construction as ready with understanding that conceptual exterior design sketches have been viewed and considered out of character with historic district.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

APPENDIX 1

April 8, 1980

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
* O.G. 80-37 HPA. 80-207	3027 N Street, N.W. Louisa C. Biddle	Installation of driveway and garage in the west end of the basement (ground) floor, similar to adjacent residence.
ACTION: Issue permit for new drive and garage to match that on other half of double house. Although Commission generally recommends against the addition of curb cuts, driveways, garage entrances or parking pads on existing properties, an excetion is permitted in this case due to symmetry of the double house, and the assurance that landscaping, garage doors, paving and other details will match the adjoining house on the east.		

O.G. 80-40 HPA. 80-223	3025 Cambridge Place, N.W. Richard Shelby	Build brick steps and small porch as shown on outside, replace front window with a bay window paint same. Renovate the building, electrical plumbing, heating and air.
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ACTION: Issue permit for proposed alterations including new sash in existing first floor masonry opening to match design of other windows (see revisions to plan). Request retention of shutters and existing lintels and retention of entrance stoop and stair be comparable in material and design to neighboring residences.

* O.G. 80-41 HPA. 80-224	3277 M Street, N.W. M and Potomac Streets Limited Partnership	Mixed use complex - residential, retail and garage.
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ACTION: Request additional information. See action dated March 20, 1980.

* O.G. 80-41 HPA. 80-232	3020 K Street, N.W. Georgetown Harbour Associates	New development -- residential, retail and office
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ACTION: For action please refer to letter dated March 17, 1980 from J. Carter Brown to Robert Moore.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

April 8, 1980

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 80-43 HPA. 80-236	3276 M Street, N.W. Market House Company	Application for a sign
ACTION: Issue permit for sign having brass lettering approximately 12 inches high at pediment of Market House.		
O.G. 80-44 HPA. 80-241	1336 30th Street, N.W. Richard Bodman	Replace glass roof with new metal roof construct dormer window as shown in plans.
ACTION: Issue permit. No objection to proposed changes. Recommend standing seam, copper or painted metal roof.		
O.G. 80-46 HPA. 80-247	3277 M Street, N.W. Craig M. Wine	Application for a sign
ACTION: Issue permit for sign no larger than 25 square feet or 5 feet by 5 feet. No objection to proposed design.		
* O.G. 80-47 HPA. 80-252	1630 35th Street, N.W. 3501 Reservoir Road, N.W. Convent Gardens Corporation	Grade site in preparation for construction.
ACTION: Issue permit for site preparation and grading. Request submission of working drawings, landscape plans, design details and material selection for Commission review prior to commencing those portions of the work.		

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

April 8, 1980

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 80-48 HPA. 80-255	1516 28th Street, N.W. Frank Weil	Addition to existing garage. Removal of existing addition at rear of residence and construction of new addition

ACTION: Concept approved. Recommend restudy of 2nd floor street front window over garage.

O.G. 80-49 HPA. 80-256	1063 31st Street, N.W. Mr. E.T. Hall	Renovation of interior and addition of new stairs and elevator.
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ACTION: No objection to conceptual renovation of existing structure.

O.G. 80-50 HPA. 80-263	3277 M Street, N.W. O.B. Beasley	Application for a temporary sign.
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ACTION: Recommend issuance of permit.

O.G. 80-51 HPA. 80-266	29th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. JBC Associates	Furnish and install canvas awnings over arcade entrance-Pennsylvania Avenue side.
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ACTION: Recommend issuance of permit for three awnings. No objection to proposed design, but question the use of a light color canvas in this location fro a maintenance point of view. Suggest that these and all other proposed awnings be coordinated with the architects for the building.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

April 8, 1980

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
* S.L. 80-20 & S.L. 21 HPA. 80-221 & HPA. 80-222	2320 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Republic of Korea	Removal of existing portion in rear of building replaced with new addition which will attach to existing front portion which is to be preserved; extend fourth floor mansard on front to full width of building front.

ACTION: For action please see letter from Charles H. Atherton to Mr. Robert Moore dated April 1, 1980.

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MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

8 April 1980

The meeting was convened at 10:10 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Members Present:

Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
Hon. Philip W. Buchen
Hon. Victorine DuPont Homsey
Hon. Eli S. Jacobs
Hon. Frederick D. Nichols
Hon. Kevin Roche
Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.

Staff Present:

Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
Mrs. Sue Kohler

National Capital Planning
Commission Staff Present:

Mr. George Oberlander

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings, approved as: 13 May 1980
10 June 1980

B. Minutes of 11 March 1980 meeting, approved with some minor clarifications suggested by the Chairman.

C. Muhlenberg Memorial: Inspection of plaster cast - report.
The Secretary recalled the Commission's review in 1978 of a small plaster maquette for this portrait bust. He said he had seen the full size plaster model recently and found it unchanged in design and fully satisfactory in appearance at full scale. It was, therefore, approved.

EXHIBIT A

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. D. C. Department of Housing and Economic Development

1. Old Georgetown Act

a. O.G. 80-52, 3020 K Street, N. W., resubmission of designs for a new mixed use complex. The Assistant Secretary reviewed the Commission's recommendation at the March meeting that certain elements along K Street be reduced in mass and height. He said the architect had responded by reducing the height by 20 feet; to make up for the loss, however, some additional mass had been added at the Eastern end facing Rock Creek, which would require adjustment of the Park Service's easement in this area. He said the Georgetown Board had reviewed this new version.

The architect, Arthur Cotton Moore, then discussed the changes. He showed a profile drawing with the old and new heights along K Street, and explained that in lowering the height he had also retained the sense of stepping down toward the river. A section through Thomas Jefferson Street compared the heights of his project with that of the new building under construction at 1050 Thomas Jefferson Street and with the Foundry project on the Canal. The Foundry is 64 feet high; the Commission has held the 1050 Thomas Jefferson project to the same height. Mr. Moore said that while his building would be 68 1/2 feet from street level, it would actually be 15 feet lower than the Thomas Jefferson Street project because of the fall of the land. Mr. Moore observed that when coming south down the streets, his project would have minimum visibility because of the presence of the freeway. He said the actual views of it would be from the river bank to the south, from the bridges crossing the river, and from Rosslyn.

Joseph Brown, from EDAW, reviewed his park proposals. The Chairman commented that there was really no assurance that most of the park area shown on the drawings would be developed as park, since it did not belong to the developer. Herbert Miller, the developer, was present at the meeting and said that he had met with Park Service officials and pledged to work with them. Mr. Jessup, representing the Park Service, was asked to comment on this. He said the Task Force Agreement, signed by the Department of the Interior, had made a commitment to the development of the park land, but as there was now some question as to the validity of this agreement, he could not say exactly what the Interior Department would offer. He said the developer's drawings were solely illustrative and not based on any agreement with the Park Service. Mr. Miller said he would have to arrange for meetings with the Park Service to work this out. He

noted that he had offered to donate part of the private land east of 30th Street, shown on the drawings as parkland, to the public for park use. The Chairman said any Commission approval would have to be contingent on knowledge of actual agreement that the Park Service and the developer would establish a park in the areas shown as parkland on the drawings. Mr. Miller said he was willing to make such an agreement, as far as his land was concerned. He said the land west of 31st Street was a D. C. and Federal Government problem, but indicated his willingness to work with the Park Service in this area also.

University of Maryland professor Yaron Sternberg, who had been asked by the developer to determine the 100 year flood record and the feasibility of building on this site, said that the Corps of Engineers' figure for the 100 year record was 16.9 feet, which he had accepted. He said he has also investigated the likelihood of a line of storms flooding Rock Creek independently of the Potomac, and found that 14.6 feet was the 100 year record for this. He said he felt it was entirely feasible to protect the proposed structures from this flood level. Mr. Stone asked Dr. Sternberg how he proposed to keep the water in the boat basin circulating; he was told that a series of baffles and the proper shape for the bottom of the basin would solve this problem. Asked about the operation of the flood control gates, Dr. Sternberg said that while the exact design had not yet been determined, it would not be based on any new technology and would be a mechanical, not electrical, operation. He used the flood gates for the Tidal Basin as an example.

There were approximately fifty people present at the meeting, and a number of them wished to comment on this project. Mrs. Endicott Peabody and Mrs. Anthony Stout, both Georgetown residents, said they were pleased with the combination of park and development, with Mrs. Stout adding that if this were not approved, another development might well be more massive and less attractive. Mrs. Lillian Walsh, a Georgetown businesswoman, said she liked the mix of development and park because it would avoid the problem of having a deserted park at night.

Pamela Mack, a Foggy Bottom resident, said she and most of her acquaintances preferred this development to an all park scheme. Ms. Pat Sheahy, from the Cleveland Park area, said she thought the development would bring a European character to the waterfront as well as needed tax revenue.

John Sullivan, a boating enthusiast associated with Georgetown University and the Potomac Boat Club, commented on the problems canoeists and oarsmen would experience on this part of the river if power boats

began using the proposed boat basin. He also noted that as the tidal flux is 2.9 feet, it would be hard at times for boats to get under the bridge and into the basin. Mr. Moore said he did not think there would be a problem with power boats as there would probably be special hours for them; this has been done in other waterfront cities, notably Philadelphia.

Katherine Sullivan, representing the Georgetown ANC's, repeated this group's position that it would be a mistake to allow any more development on the Georgetown waterfront. In commenting on this specific proposal, she said it was still too large, that K Street would still have a solid wall of loading docks, the views down the north-south streets would be restricted, and the marina might not really be feasible and had not yet received adequate study. She expressed concern, too, that flood waters would be pushed further up into Georgetown if the project were built. Finally, Mrs. Sullivan commented that some of the citizens who had spoken in favor of the project had been associated with the developer in other projects; she also noted that the great majority of neighboring citizens' association members had voted against the development and for the all park scheme.

The Chairman commented that the Commission was not reviewing land use at this meeting, and that its preference for the all park scheme was well-known. He said that in respect to the design submission before it, certain aspects, such as the boat basin and the crescent concept had already been approved; the members were at this point considering such items as the reduced height on K Street and the additional bulk along the eastern edge.

Architect Grosvenor Chapman asked to comment on the architectural elements. He said the project was still too high; he pointed out that the developer and the architect had not really complied with the Commission's recommendations because the height was measured from an artificial line (the Task Force datum line) and not from the ground. Mr. Chapman said this project would actually be 8'-6" higher than the 1050 Thomas Jefferson project, which will be 63 feet at its K Street elevation. He also thought that the increased development along Rock Creek Park was not acceptable. Mr. Chapman criticized the floating dock as narrowing the river even further at its narrowest point, and the boat basin's small size as not being adequate to absorb the noise of power boats. A final criticism was directed toward the oval shape of the basin, which he did not think was suitable to the architectural character of Georgetown.

Ann Satterthwaite, a recreational planner, said that more flood plain information should be made available. She also noted that the

project would turn its back to Georgetown, and the residents to the north would see nothing but blank walls. Donald Shannon, Chairman of the waterfront committee of the ANC's, showed an old print of the waterfront and said there has always been an unobstructed view from the north down to the river. He said the proposed development was too "fair-like" and thought the boat basin was "just a gimmick." He said this office building type of development does not belong on the historic waterfront.

Valerie Burden, a Georgetown resident, said she was worried about the floods and the increased traffic. Charles Poor, president of the Citizens Association of Georgetown, said the development was still too bulky and that his group wanted the flavor of the old port preserved. Thomas Parrott noted that those who testified in favor of the development had drawn the wrong comparisons; he said no one was advocating keeping the old cement works or creating a park which would be dark and deserted at night. Lastly, Mr. Miller stated that those who testified for the development were not associated with him personally or professionally.

The members then discussed the revised design. Mr. Stone thought the promenade area around the boat basin was much too narrow. He also observed that if the freeway ever did come down, the project really would seem to turn its back on Georgetown. Mr. Moore answered that this would be a typical block type development with the normal streets kept open and so would not appear much different from the rest of Georgetown if the freeway were removed, a prospect he considered very unlikely. The Chairman asked questions about the north wall along K Street. Mr. Moore said the loading docks and dark atmosphere under the freeway would be relieved by lighted, translucent canopies, entrances to the apartments, and the activity of a drop-off place for cabs and shuttle buses to the Metro station. The Chairman concluded the discussion by saying that the Commission, in general, adopted the Georgetown Board's report. He emphasized that the all park solution was still preferred, and said that the heights allowed in this project could not be allowed to set a precedent. The increase in height and mass along the eastern edge was approved as being preferable to building 20 feet high right to the edge of Rock Creek, as would be allowed under the present Park Service easement. It was thought that the slightly increased bulk would give some visual weight to that end of the project. However, the Chairman stressed that the mature trees along the creek must not be disturbed. He concluded by saying that final approval would be contingent on a very clear spelling out of what all agencies involved are committed to in the way of park development, and also what the developer's exact commitments are.

EXHIBIT B, B-1

b. O.G. 80-53, 3631 Canal Road, N. W., proposed apartment building as addition to two existing 19th century structures. The Assistant Secretary reviewed this submission, recalling that in July 1977 the Commission had received a demolition request for the two small townhouses, which was not associated with a construction project, and had rejected it because of the age of the structures and the fact that they did not create an adverse impact on the area. He said the Georgetown Board had seen this apartment proposal, which would retain the two old structures and build behind them on a steep hill. The Board had asked for some restudy, involving more precise alignment of the new structure with the old. The architect had complied, and it was this revised version, shown on drawings and a model, which was submitted to the full Commission at this meeting. The Assistant Secretary introduced the architect, Arthur Cotton Moore, who discussed his design. Mr. Moore said the small houses, the last of a row, were vacant and not desirable as living spaces any longer because of the traffic noise and fumes. He said his proposal was to build the small (12 unit) apartment house behind the old buildings, which would necessitate the demolition of the one story rear additions, and use the front portions as an entrance lobby. The effect would be that of one building rising above another on a steep hill. Mr. Moore said he had looked at the nearby Washington Canoe Club and had taken his inspiration for the form and shingle facing on his apartment building from this Victorian structure. The sides of the new building would be brick at the ground floor level to tie in with the material of the existing houses. The members approved the preliminary design, with further development to be reviewed by the Georgetown Board.

c. O.G. 80-31, 2929 M Street, N. W., revised designs and model for proposed new National Savings and Trust bank. Mr. Carson recalled the Commission's preference, at the March 1980 meeting, for the architect's "Scheme B", with the recommendation that a window be cut in the street wall of the rectangular appendage to relieve the blank appearance. The architect, James Murphy, subsequently submitted a revised design to the Georgetown Board showing this window, a metal rather than slate roof, and a revised cupola design; the cupola would also be metal. The Georgetown Board requested that the window be narrowed somewhat, and also asked Mr. Murphy to go back to the previous wood cupola design. The Commission members agreed that the earlier design was preferable and that it should definitely be wood, not metal. The Chairman added that he would like the roof material to be slate, and all the members stressed that vinyl or metal clad wood muntins must be used for the windows. The preliminary design was approved with these recommendations.

d. Appendix 1, approved.

2. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. Appendix 2, approved.

B. Department of the Army

1. CFA 8/APR/80-1, Arlington Cemetery, proposed modifications and handicapped facilities at the Amphitheatre. The Secretary introduced the architect, William Ensign, who explained that while this was a small project, it would affect the building in many places. It would involve, principally, rehabilitation of the deteriorating structure and providing facilities for the handicapped. Mr. Ensign showed slides to point out the various areas which needed attention and where changes would occur. He said major rehabilitation of the vaulted chapel ceiling was necessary because of severe leaking problems; crumbling and cracked walls, particularly the front wall of the stage, would have to be repaired and patched; and provisions made for dehumidifying the chapel and museum. This would involve placing air conditioning units on the roof, which would be concealed by extending a wing wall. Mr. Ensign said that removal of some of the front seats in the theatre to give more space for the bands used during ceremonies had been requested, as well as a forward extension of the stage.

The handicapped entrance would be through a new door on the stage side of the building, by means of a ramp. The entrance to the seating area would be to the right of the stage. A lift would provide access to the upper level. A stand for television cameras would be provided on the west side of the roof, facing the stage.

The Chairman asked if the handicapped entrance inside the amphitheatre could be placed farther from the stage. Mr. Ensign said this was not feasible because of lack of headroom. The only aspect of the project to which there was any objection was the extension of the stage. The members all thought this would create a problem because it would put the stage too far above the audience and also have a marked effect on the scale of the design. The Chairman said the Commission could not approve this and would have to see further study and detailed drawings. The rest of the changes were approved.

At this point the Secretary said that the Superintendent of the cemetery had requested an opinion from the Commission in regard to changing the material for the niche covers in the columbarium from limestone to marble. The Secretary said that he had looked at the limestone now being used and agreed that there might be a problem in appearance. The Chairman said that while there would be no objection to marble, it should not be too white, and the Commission would want to see a sample before giving approval. EXHIBIT C

C. Smithsonian Institution

1. CFA 8/APR/80-6, South Quadrangle development plan.

The Assistant Secretary reviewed the Commission's previous approval in April 1979 of the concept for the development of the South Quadrangle, which included a new building to house the Museum of African Art and an addition to the Freer Gallery. Since that time more detailed plans have been made, and several representatives from the Smithsonian as well as the architects were present at this meeting to discuss them.

James Goode, curator of the Smithsonian Castle, opened the discussion with a slide presentation of the history of the Quadrangle area, the various temporary buildings which have occupied the site, and the plans for permanent structures which never materialized. These included a proposal to build wings on the Castle to house the 1876 exhibits (which were later placed in the Arts and Industries building, erected especially for this purpose), and in the 1920's, plans for a forerunner of the History and Technology building which would have filled the Quadrangle. After World War I the Air Museum was housed in a quonset-type building in the Quadrangle which remained until the opening of the new Air and Space Museum in 1975. At that time the site was cleared and the Victorian garden laid out, reestablishing James Renwick's desire for an axial south entrance to the Castle. Mr. Goode noted that this garden will remain and the axis will be strengthened by the installation of entrance gates on Independence Avenue. These will be identical to those designed by Renwick for this site but never erected.

Jean-Paul Carlhian, from the architectural firm of Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson and Abbott, then discussed the site plan, massing and landscaping for the Quadrangle and the two new buildings. He showed a large number of slides of the Quadrangle as seen from the Forrestal Building across Independence Avenue, from the Mall through the openings between the Castle and the Arts and Industries Building to the east and the Freer to the west, and from Independence Avenue as one approaches from both directions. He noted the number of "holes" which appear along the north side of Independence Avenue, and the ragged edge of the south side, which unlike Constitution Avenue, has no uniform building line. He said there has been a proposal by EDAA, the landscaping and planning firm, to plant a double row of trees along the avenue to minimize this irregularity. Mr. Carlhian said that in developing his plan for the Quadrangle, he began with the assumption that all the Smithsonian buildings together formed, in effect, one large structure with courtyards, much like the other Mall buildings. The two new pavilions, with their garden walls, would screen the Quadrangle from traffic, tie all the Smithsonian buildings together, and keep the space in the Quadrangle from leaking out. Mr. Carlhian said that he had been concerned with the height and placement of the new

buildings in relation to the facades of the Freer and Arts and Industries buildings, to the axial entrance to the Castle as seen from the Forrestal Building, and to the vistas from the Mall through the Quadrangle.

Turning to the pavilions, Mr. Carlihan said they were expected to be approximately 60 by 90 feet, with a height of 35 feet. About 94% of the space would be underground, consisting of classrooms, study areas and libraries, and a parking garage for 330 cars. Sunken gardens would provide light for these areas. There would be a screened Japanese garden at the north end of the Freer addition, and at the African museum, a space for dance performances in the same location. The model showed an Oriental style Freer addition, while the African museum was non-assertive in character, compatible with but not recalling any one of the many African architectural styles. It was decided to make each pavilion different so as to avoid adding a fourth strong architectural style to the three already present in the Smithsonian complex.

Mr. Yoshimura, the Japanese architect who will design the buildings, said a few words about the problems of scale and style and emphasized that these pavilions must be very simple, like garden houses, and that they must be contemporary structures, not copies of traditional buildings.

The members were all pleased with the concept, although the Chairman pointed out that the two story sunken garden walls could be a problem visually. He also commented on the importance of planting the rows of trees along Independence Avenue and said the Commission would like to have some assurance that this will be done. EXHIBIT D

D. University of the District of Columbia and WMATA

1. CFA 8/APR/80-5, proposed bridge connection between buildings, Van Ness and Connecticut Avenue. The members were informed that this bridge would connect campus buildings to a private building under construction, thus giving the students access to this commercial structure and to the Metro station. There were no objections and it was approved. EXHIBIT E

E. District of Columbia Department of General Services

1. CFA 8/APR/80-2, prevocational/vocational/educational facility for the handicapped. 1st Street between H and I Streets, N. W. Mr. Carson discussed the design for this facility, to be located on a site near Union Station and the Government Printing Office, convenient to bus and Metro stops. Louis Fry, from the firm of Fry and Welch, said the material would be a light tan brick, with colored glazed

brick panels at street level. These panels could be removed and replaced with glass at some future date if desired. The Chairman asked Mr. Fry about the colors, expressing some concern about the effect if they were too bright. Mr. Fry said the panels would all be in shadowed areas, which would cut down on the brightness, and added that they could be kept especially subdued along the south elevation on H Street. EXHIBIT F

F. National Park Service, National Capital Region

1. CFA 8/APR/80-4, site plan for temporary sculpture by Lila Katzen, Reservation 378, Federal Reserve Building. The Secretary showed photographs of Ms. Katzen's sculpture, fabricated of Corten steel; there was no objection to its location on the site specified. EXHIBIT G

2. CFA 8/APR/80-9, temporary sites for the International Sculpture Conference to be held in early summer. The Secretary introduced Joseph Ronsisvalle from the Park Service and a representative from the Sculpture Conference. Mr. Ronsisvalle said this sculpture would be in place for only a few months, and in some cases, such as the three pieces for Constitution Gardens, only a few days. There would be a large Richard Serra piece in Farragut Square, on the corner of 17th and I Streets, and 6-8 pieces in the Ellipse area next to 17th Street. There was no objection to the use of these sites for temporary installations of sculpture as long as the Sculpture Conference repaired any damage which might occur from the installation. EXHIBIT G

G. District of Columbia, Department of Transportation

1. CFA 8/APR/80-3, modification to approved designs for railing at Chain Bridge. The Assistant Secretary showed the members the bridge design previously approved by the Commission. It was asymmetrical, having a sidewalk on one side only. A railing consisting of horizontal members and heavy steel mesh was shown next to the sidewalk, while the other side had the standard "New Jersey" barrier. The old Washington street lights were retained. Since that version was reviewed, new studies have been made with the assistance of the Landmarks Committee and the DOT. The design shown at this meeting retained the asymmetry and the New Jersey barrier where shown previously, but the railing on the pedestrian side had been redesigned. It had vertical members and was similar to the one now existing. There was no steel mesh used. The members thought this much more attractive and it was approved. EXHIBIT H

H. Department of Health and Human Services

1. CFA 8/APR/80 - 7, designs for new seal. This submission was withdrawn and will be submitted later.

III. LEGISLATION

A. Committee on Environment and Public Works

1. CFA 8/APR/80 - 8, request for comment on S. 2080, "The Public Buildings Act of 1979." The Secretary suggested that the best approach to this would be a staff report, which would be circulated to the members for their approval. EXHIBIT I

IV. INSPECTION

A. Site inspection of proposed acquisitions at the Freer Gallery.

Because of the late hour, this was deferred until the next meeting, but if preferable to the director of the Freer the Commission gave authority to the Chairman to examine and approve the objects for acquisition. EXHIBIT J

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Signed,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

June 10, 1980

Dear Mr. Fellingner:

I am happy to confirm the Commissions approval on April 8, 1980 of the final plaster cast for the Muhlenberg Memorial.

This action should complete the Commissions review of the memorial unless there are changes or additions to the project as approved by the Commission sometime ago.

Please let me know how the casting comes out. I'd like to see it when it's finished.

With all best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. Everett G. Fellingner
President
Peter Muhlenberg Memorial Association
3205 38th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

06 80-52

April 7, 1980

The Georgetown Waterfront Development

The Board of Architectural Consultants for Georgetown, at its meeting on 1 April, 1980 met with the architect, Arthur Cotton Moore, to consider revised designs for Western Development's proposal at 3020 K Street, N.W., on the Georgetown Waterfront. The application was numbered O.G. 80-52.

The major changes to the design submitted in March, (O.G. 80-42), involved reduction in height and mass in the buildings adjoining K Street and north of the line of Virginia Avenue extended. While the average height appears to be closer to seventy feet, rather than the sixty foot limit recommended by the Commission, it was noted that buildings to the north of K Street are still higher due to the slope of the hill up toward the Canal. The Board also noted that the Whitehurst Freeway, next to the north face of the development, will obscure the mass to some extent as long as it remains. In the event it is removed, the higher building elements flanking Thomas Jefferson Street will tend to give some architectural interest and are preferable to a uniform cornice of sixty feet along the entire length of K Street.

The architectural treatment is still only conceptual at this stage. However, the general effect suggested by the architect in his model and drawings appear to be heading in the right direction. Special attention should be given to the smaller scale elements along the east and west sides of the project to insure that the total effect has a compositional balance.

The Board also examined the proposed heights, or elevations, of the bulkhead and boat basin features as well as the connecting walkways and adjoining landscape elements. It appears that the various levels of these elements will provide a measure of protection from the more typical highwater conditions along the waterfront, but will not prevent flooding when the river reaches flood levels approaching the "100 year" mark.

...2/

From the points of view of the visual appearance of the project itself and the possible vistas that would be created through it, the Board finds that the design has merit. While the Board's comments have been directed toward achieving a better design for the proposed development, the Board continues to support the Commission's position favoring an all park scheme for this site. In the event necessary funding cannot be found to incorporate these seven acres of privately owned land in the waterfront park, the Board recommends that the developer be encouraged to join with public agencies in the coordination of his project with adjoining park lands. The Board further commends any efforts to end the present unsightly and incompatible uses on both public and private lands on the Georgetown Waterfront.

The Board of Architectural
Consultants for Georgetown

April 22, 1980

Dear Mr. Moore:

At its meeting on April 8, 1980 the Commission of Fine Arts considered revised designs for a large-scale commercial residential complex at 3020 K Street, N.W. on the Georgetown waterfront (O.G. 80-52). The scheme was presented by the Western Development Corporation in response to recommendations made by the Commission at its meeting on March 11, 1980.

At that time, the Commission noted its continuing concern for the height and bulk of buildings adjoining K Street and recommended limiting building heights close to the sixty foot level. As a result of those recommendations, the developers lowered the highest portions of the structure from eighty-eight feet to a level approximating sixty-eight feet above K Street at the intersection with Thomas Jefferson Street.

The Board of Architectural Consultants reviewed this revised submission at its meeting on April 1 and recommended a conceptual approval. In doing so they noted that while building heights still exceeded sixty feet, there were mitigating factors that offset the excess height, including the adjoining Whitehurst Freeway, and a lower site elevation than those of buildings north of K Street. The Commission concurs with the Georgetown Board's report, but would like to make it clear that the additional building height permitted in this instance represents no change in the Commission's height policy and should be viewed as an exception, not a precedent.

We would like to point out that some of the bulk removed from the two structures flanking Thomas Jefferson Street was transferred to the portion of the development on the east side of Thirtieth Street. In the Commission's opinion, this small amount of additional mass helps the overall balance of the project.

Also, the current permissible building envelope in this area of the site could result in a structure some twenty feet in height extending from Thirtieth Street to the banks of Rock Creek. Such a building could obliterate all the mature landscaping bordering the park and would be unacceptable in the Commission's opinion.

The proposed scheme, although higher, is well back from the stream bank and preserves the existing tree cover.

At this stage of the development, the architectural character is largely conceptual. Much remains to be done in working out the details of the elevations and site treatment. However, the Commission feels that the general direction as indicated in the models and drawings is a good one; further study should proceed along the same lines. In this regard, we cannot stress too much the importance of carrying forward into the details of the design the same freshness and sense of refinement that were suggested in the sketches and models presented to the Commission. Final Commission approval of the design will rest to a considerable extent on the success of these efforts. Of course the architectural design is only one aspect of the development. Many questions remain, and a number of larger issues need to be resolved.

Paramount among them is the issue of park development. The Commission's position favoring the purchase of this land for inclusion in the waterfront park is well-known. Nothing that has been presented to the Commission so far has altered this view. The site for this development is uniquely situated and could be one of the most beautiful parks in the Capital. It should be in the public domain. However, the Commission recognizes the possibility that funding may not be available despite widespread support from the community and from members of both Houses of Congress. It is in this context that the Commission has devoted considerable time and effort toward improving the design of the development in the event it is built.

Before the Commission gives its final approval, however, we would like to have a firm commitment from the Federal and District agencies on developing all remaining lands south of K Street as part of the National Capital Parks system. There have been references to such an agreement at various times in the past, but none of them has been binding, including the task force agreement that was put forward last summer. Since there does not appear to be any obstacle to the transfer of the land west of Thirty-First Street to the National Capital Park system, we recommend that the District Government undertake at the earliest possible time the necessary steps to accomplish this end.

Finally, we request that intermediate architectural designs be submitted for detailed review by the Commission well before commencing with the working drawings.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

J. C. B.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Robert L. Moore
Mayor's Agent for Historic Preservation
District of Columbia Government
1325 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

April 28, 1980

Dear Mrs. Kimball:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on April 8, 1980, reviewed preliminary drawings for proposed renovations at the Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery. Mr. William Ensign, architect, presented the project.

The Commission is glad to see that steps are being taken to correct some of the present structural and physical deficiencies of the Amphitheater, and that access will be provided for the handicapped to both the stage level and the general area for audience seating. Most of the other items proposed for alteration or addition appear to be in order and fit in reasonably well with the existing building.

There is one exception, however, and that is the elimination of the lower level on the front of the stage. The Commission is concerned that this change will seriously detract from the scale of the elements forming the stage setting. The additional height on the face of the apron, combined with the extra height realized through lowering the amphitheater some eighteen inches, is excessive and will cut off a view of the stage from those sitting in the first few rows of public seating.

The design of the stage in its present form is most appropriate, and the Commission would not like to see it altered except for the most compelling reasons. If such reasons exist, in your view, the Commission would like to have the opportunity to discuss them before any final decisions are reached in regard to the scope of the proposed changes.

Finally, the new door for handicapped access to the public seating is not ideal, since it will be the only element out of balance with an otherwise symmetrical design; however, there seems to be no other choice for locating the entrance. Perhaps this door should be wood and follow the design of the other monumental doors,

but be painted to blend with the marble rather than varnished as currently proposed.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mrs. Wanda Kimball
NADN-MSW
Baltimore District
Corps of Engineers
Department of the Army
Box 1715
Baltimore, Maryland 21203

April 17, 1980

Dear Mr. Reiss:

The Commission of Fine Arts was happy to give preliminary approval to the concept, massing and general site plan of the Smithsonian South Quadrangle development at its April 8, 1980 meeting.

Because of the nature and extent of the underground construction this Commission would encourage that the project be considered a unit, and not a phased program. We further hope that adequate soil can cover the deck areas to provide for the gardens and rich planting your presentation materials promise. We also have some concern about the extreme depth of the two sunken courts. A single story showing below grade is reasonable. Two stories at that small scale is severe, and may create an unpleasant effect. We urge careful consideration of this question.

We look forward to working with the Smithsonian in the further developments of the site details, and the building designs, particularly the Japanese and African pavilions.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Philip Reiss, Director
Office of Facilities Planning
and Engineering Services
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D. C. 20560

DM:ko:hg

EXHIBIT D

April 17, 1980

Dear Mr. Seay:

The Commission of Fine Arts was happy to approve designs for a pedestrian bridge between Metro Station, the University of the District of Columbia and your client's proposed commercial building for the Connecticut/Van Ness area. We appreciate the fact that you and the architect, Warren Cox were able to be with us during our meeting on April 8, 1980 and were representing the project on behalf of your client, Prudential, and the two adjacent government properties. Per your agreement with them, we are responding to you, with copies to Mr. Claude Ford at the University of the District of Columbia and Mr. Robert Izzo of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority indicating the Commission's approval.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Keith Seay
Hudson, Leftwich & Davenport
1101 15th Street, N.W., Suite 806
Washington, D.C. 20005

DM:ko:hg

EXHIBIT E

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATIERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

May 2, 1980

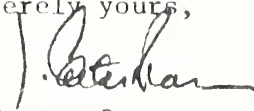
Dear Mr. Pavlick:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on April 8, 1980 reviewed and approved plans for the Vocational Educational Facility for the Handicapped at First and H Streets, Northwest.

Mr. Louis Fry's designs represent a thoughtful approach to a difficult program and will be a positive addition to the area.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Charles Pavlick
Liaison Officer
Department of General Services
District of Columbia Government
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

EXHIBIT F

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHAN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHF

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. AHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

May 2, 1980

Dear Jack:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on April 8, 1980 considered temporary locations for a number of pieces of sculpture that are to be installed on park lands this summer.

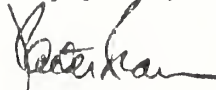
The sculpture by Lila Katzen to be placed on Reservation 378, at Virginia Avenue next to the Federal Reserve Building, is approved. Arrangements to remove the sculpture after a year's time should be firm before the sculpture is installed.

The remaining sites associated with the International Sculpture Conference to be held here in June were also reviewed and approved as temporary installations varying from a few days to no more than four or five months. None of the locations will involve the central panels of the Mall.

We are glad to know that the exhibitors will be held responsible for returning the sites to their prior condition once the sculpture is removed.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish
National Park Service
National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

EXHIBIT G

April 17, 1980

Dear Mr. Clarke:

The Commission was happy to have you and your colleagues join us on April 8, 1980 to discuss additional revisions to the historic Chain Bridge. As you well know from our frequent discussions, the Commission would far prefer to have the bridge keep its present appearance without added barricades and an asymmetrical appearance. However, we do understand the safety constraints that the District of Columbia Government is under, and thus approve the proposal as your final submission on the project.

We feel that the continuation of vertical balusters on the new scheme offers a continuity with the old railing and also the ramp going from the bridge to the towpath of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal below. The elimination of the once proposed chain link mesh has our blessings.

One note of caution, however, is the color, with which we will be glad to help. Our staff has noted that the grey color on the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bridge is very light. It is so light that the color highlights all the rivets, brackets, and paraphernalia hanging below the deck. It may be wise to consider a color dark enough to obscure the mechanical detail and keep the underside of the Chain Bridge in semi-shadow.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. James Clarke
Office of Transportation Policies and Plans
Department of Transportation
District of Columbia Government
415 12th Street, N.W., Room 519
Washington, D. C. 20004

DM:ko:hg

EXHIBIT H

June 12, 1960

Dear Senator Randolph:

On behalf of the Commission of Fine Arts, I am happy to submit our report on S. 2080, a bill to establish public building policies for the Federal Government, to establish the Public Buildings Service in the General Services Administration, and other related matters.

The Commission welcomes any legislation which will improve the design level of the Federal Government's public buildings program. We are therefore encouraged to see that provisions of this bill would severely curtail the current trend of leasing privately constructed buildings for occupancy by federal employees. Built in the absence of any design controls and specifications that would ensure high standards, many buildings constructed under this program simply are not adequate for federal occupancy. Oftentimes the results are undistinguished architecturally, and in some instances are physically deficient. Poorly-designed buildings reflect poorly on the government and in the end adversely affect the quality of services that are delivered to the public.

The Commission also strongly supports increasing procurement of architectural services through design competitions, especially where a major public building is involved. However, we question whether rigid limits should be set by law that would require all services within certain cost ranges to be procured by this method. It would probably be better to incorporate some latitude in the process, since there will be instances where a design competition is simply not feasible or warranted. As a rule, however, competitions are an excellent way of obtaining the best designers, a fact that is borne out by experience in other countries where this method of selection is regularly employed. The American Institute of Architects has adopted an excellent set of guidelines for the holding of competitions and it might be helpful to your committee to refer to them when considering this bill in greater detail. It should be noted that the primary purpose of a competition is to select the architect and not a final design. Only through extensive consultation between client and architect does the final design of a building emerge. This is especially true when the programmatic requirements for a building are complex, as is the case in many federal building types.

Title V, involving exhibitions and works of art in federal buildings, is particularly encouraging to the Commission of Fine Arts. We have, over a period of many years, urged Congress to enact legislation that would provide for the setting aside of a certain percentage of construction funds for the commissioning of permanent works of art. Although no legislation has ever been enacted, various administrators of GSA have undertaken such programs with varying degrees of success. Obviously legislation that would mandate a consistent application of funds toward a permanent acquisition program would offset the current unevenness, and furthermore would ensure the continuation of a valuable program by not leaving it up to the proclivities of changing administrations.

Our public buildings are one of the more tangible forms of expressing the goals and aspirations of our society. The Commission is delighted to support this bill which we feel would go far toward achieving an appropriate public architecture of which we can all be proud.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

The Honorable
Jennings Randolph
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Cable address:
FREER, Washington, D. C.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
FREER GALLERY OF ART
WASHINGTON, D. C., 20560

Area Code: 202
Telephone: 381-5344

April 16, 1980

EXHIBIT J

RECEIVED
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

MAY 1 1980

Mr. Charles Atherton
Commission of Fine Arts
708 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

NOTED _____

Dear Charles:

This afternoon, Carter came to the Gallery to review the objects we are planning to purchase for the collection. Most of the pieces are Japanese, so Yoshi Shimizu, our Curator of Japanese Art, discussed each of the objects with Carter.

The main emphasis in this group is upon calligraphy, and so I am hoping we will have an opportunity to show them to you before too long. In the meantime, I hope that you will be able to attend our coming exhibition of Chinese calligraphy that will open in May.

Enclosed is the copy of the list of objects that Carter saw when he visited the Gallery.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,



Thomas Lawton
Director

TL/mh
Enclosure

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution and the Commission of Fine Arts, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

Gifts to the Collection:

- 1 Korean pottery; Koryŏ dynasty, 918-1392; celadon bowl with incised phoenix motif.
- 1 Korean pottery; Yi dynasty, 1392-1910; vase; white porcelain with blue decoration.
- 1 Korean pottery; Yi dynasty, 1392-1910; white porcelain vase.

Transfer from the Bishop Collection:

- 1 Chinese stone sculpture; T'ang, 618-907; monument with inscription dated Yung Lung 2nd year, 8th day, 4th month (A.D. 681).

Purchases for the Collection:

- 1 PAIR Chinese calligraphy; Ch'ing, 1644-1912; by Ho Shao-chi; hanging scroll; ink on paper.
- 1 PAIR Chinese calligraphy; Ch'ing, 1644-1912; by Lo Chen-yu; hanging scroll; ink on paper.
- 1 PAIR Persian metalwork; 12th century; gold earrings in shape of lions.
- 1 Turkish pottery; Iznik, late 15th century; three-panel frieze; blue and white.
- 1 Japanese calligraphy; Edo, 1615-1868; by Mokuan, 1611-1684; hanging scroll; ink on paper.
- 1 Japanese calligraphy; Edo, 1615-1868; by Karasuma Mitsuhiro, 1579-1638; handscroll; ink on paper.
- 1 Japanese calligraphy; Edo, 1615-1868; by Shōkadō Shōjō, 1584-1639; handscroll; ink on paper.
- 1 Japanese calligraphy; Momoyama, 1573-1615; by Kōgetsu Sōgan, 1574-1643; hanging scroll; ink on paper; with five written documents.

- 1 Japanese calligraphy; Momoyama, 1573-1615; by Konoe Nobutada, 1565-1614; six individual poem sheets on four-panel screen; ink on paper.
- 1 Japanese calligraphy; late Heian, 794-1185; handscrolls; color, gold and silver on indigo-dyed paper; from a set of illustrated sutras.
- 1 PAIR Japanese paintings; Muromachi, 1392-1573; late 15th century; traditionally attributed to Sesshu; landscape; hanging scrolls; ink on silk.
- 1 Japanese painting; Muromachi, 1392-1573; 16th century; by Soga Choku'an, fl. 1596-1610; bird and branches; hanging scroll (fan); ink on paper.
- 1 Japanese painting; Edo, 1615-1868; by Tanaka Totsugen, 1767-1823; "Six Immortal Poets and Poetesses"; album; ink, colors on silk.
- 1 Japanese painting; Edo, 1615-1868; style of Itō Jakuchū, 1713-1800; "Chrysanthemum"; two-fold screen; colors on paper.
- 1 Japanese painting; Edo, 1615-1868; by Nishikawa Sukenobu, 1671-1751; "Activities of the Twelve Months of the Year"; handscroll; ink and color on paper.
- 1 Japanese pottery; Nara, 645-794; Sueki ware; green glaze; medallion-like impression on two sides; long neck.
- 1 Japanese pottery; Muromachi, 1392-1573; Echizen ware; large storage jar.
- 1 Japanese pottery; Muromachi, 1392-1573; Shigaraki; storage jar.
- 1 Japanese lacquer; Muromachi, 1392-1573; comb box with lid; (late 15th century)
- 1 Japanese lacquer; Muromachi, 1392-1573; drum body; wood, finished with lacquer and maki-e design of musical instruments.
- 1 Japanese lacquer; Momoyama; Early Edo, 1573-1764; drum body; kodai-ji maki-e design of chrysanthemums and other fall flowers.

16 April 1980

s/ I. CARTER BROWN
For the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution

For the Commission of Fine Arts

